

**HIGH SCHOOL REORGANIZATION REPORT**  
**CONSIDERATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**FACILITIES SECTION SUBMITTED BY: PAUL NEWTON**

**SCHEDULING AND STAFFING SECTION SUBMITTED BY: TOM DUFFY**

**FACILITIES CONCERNS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. School Organization: We feel that in order to best meet the needs of our high school age students that the high school should maintain its 9 – 12 organization.
2. Grouping: We do feel that there is considerable merit to regrouping the students into a 10-12 environment and a separate 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy (or grouping). Having all ninth graders together in the same “wing” or facility will allow us to provide a better transition from middle to high school. Further it will allow us to implement a “team” structure to the ninth grade classes that should benefit students both academically and emotionally. Considerable research exists that supports ninth grade teaming. This said all of the students (9-12) need to be housed in the same school environment. This is essential for access to a variety of courses and so that credits can be managed by the school responsible for the student’s graduation. We are not inclined to support a reorganization that would group ninth grade students in a junior high apart from the other high school courses. Our research found that there are no districts in Connecticut that offer a 7-8-9 / 10-11-12 grouping practice.
3. Site Selection: We feel that the current site of Fermi High School would be preferable if we are moving from two high schools into one. We feel that the size of the building is more appropriate for housing the combined population of students. We also feel that there is more usable space for the physical plant expansion that would be necessary.

We considered using Enfield High School with Enfield St. School as the ninth grade academy however we rejected this as a viable option. Our rationale for this was that it would result in the need for renovation and additions to both of these building. EHS is not large enough to house the existing 10-12 population without an addition and considerable renovation. ESS is not large enough to house the projected 450-500 ninth graders without an addition and considerable renovation to make the facility appropriate for high school aged students. Further, the distance between EHS and ESS makes it very difficult to have students in ESS access courses at EHS. In times of inclement weather or extreme temperatures it makes sharing of facilities very difficult. We also would be concerned about being able to properly supervise the passing of students between these two facilities as they are currently situated.

#### 4. Renovations Needed and Physical Plant Limitations:

- Ninth Grade Academy – We believe that an addition would need to be added so that all of the ninth graders could be housed together in a separate part of the school. We would be looking to add additional 20 – 24 classrooms that would be designed to meet the needs of the ninth grade courses and curricula. Some electives like art, technology, and music would share the current facilities with the upperclassmen. These additional classrooms would allow us to group and create teams for the ninth graders and keep them separate from the older students to a larger degree. We would recommend that 2 administrators oversee and work with this “academy” which would be approximately 500 students in size. We would like to see a separate “satellite” cafeteria and an auxiliary gym as part of this new construction that would be only for the use of the ninth graders.
- Fermi High School – Because of the new construction all of the OCR renovations would need to be addressed.
- Cafeteria – Renovation should be considered in the cafeteria. The current design, with the dish room in the middle, takes up valuable space and consolidation or redesign should be considered so that 60-70 additional seats can be added to the cafeteria.
- Science Labs – Our current number (3) of science labs is insufficient to accommodate the 1400 – 1500 students in grades 10 – 12. We estimate that 3 classrooms in the “B Wing” will need to be redesigned to incorporate our need for additional science labs.
- Storage Space – Our current storage rooms are full and storage was an issue in our past NEASC report. We managed that by emptying out very old and damaged items to create more storage space. The consolidation of all of the items from 2 schools into 1 would necessitate the creation of additional storage spaces in all department areas.
- Technology Education Classrooms – We will need to make some decisions about the number of technology courses that we will offer post-consolidation. Our current shop space will limit the number of sections that we can offer. If we decide that offering more courses is preferable then a renovation of the shops and a small expansion may be warranted.
- Band Room – We need to carefully evaluate if the existing Band Room can accommodate the additional bodies and instruments of the combined program. We may need to expand the current classroom into the storage area and then relocate or recreate an instrument storage area.
- Faculty and Student Parking – We currently have 144 parking spaces available for staff. We would need to “create” additional 40-50 spaces to accommodate the additional staff and expanded visitor parking. We currently have 209 parking spaces available for students. If we were able to conjoin the upper and lower student parking lots we would pick up a good number of usable parking spaces. This would at the very least offset the number that we need for teachers. We could closely examine the open spaces on campus to see if any

additional parking could be found. With approximately 450-500 seniors we would limit parking to "seniors only".

- Lockers – We have sufficient lockers to accommodate grades 10-12. We would recommend adding lockers to the ninth grade academy wing if it is constructed.
- Auditorium – Since OCR is requiring that renovation is necessary in the auditorium we would recommend also considering expansion or redesign of the seating to all for more than the 586 seats that we currently have available. If expansion is not possible then we would not be able to meet with more than one class of students at a time.
- Library – The addition of 800 students and all of the current LMC materials from EHS would necessitate a reevaluation of the useable space in our LMC. Reorganization and/or expansion might be worthy of consideration.

Staffing for Enfield/Fermi High School				6-May-10
Projection for 1850-1900 Students (@ 22 students in Core Academic Areas)				
Department -	CurStaff	ProjStaff*	Notes	
English	22	19	Incl. Piano, Chorus, Music Theory	
Mathematics	21	17		
Social Studies	19	16		
Sciences	20	17		
World Language	15	11		
Art	5	4		
Family & Consumer Science	4	4		
Business	7	6		
Technology Education	8	7		
Physical Education	6	6		
Health	4	3		
Music	3	2		
Computer Teacher	2	1		
Reading	4	4		
Career Center	2	1		
Pupil Services: Social Worker, School Psychologist	6	6		
Special Education	17	16		
Guidance Counselors	9	7.5		
ADMIN	2	1		
1420-1450 Gr10-12		Prin	separate 9th wing area for most of the day	
		VPrin 10-12		
		Vprin 9		
430-450 Gr9		5		
Totals		182	153.5	
Notes				
*ProjStaff:IncludesReduction of 1 Deptmt Head (content area specialist) per Core Academic Department				